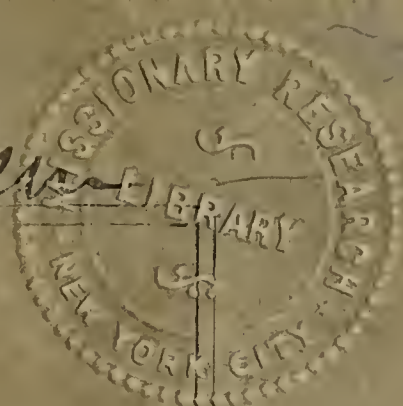
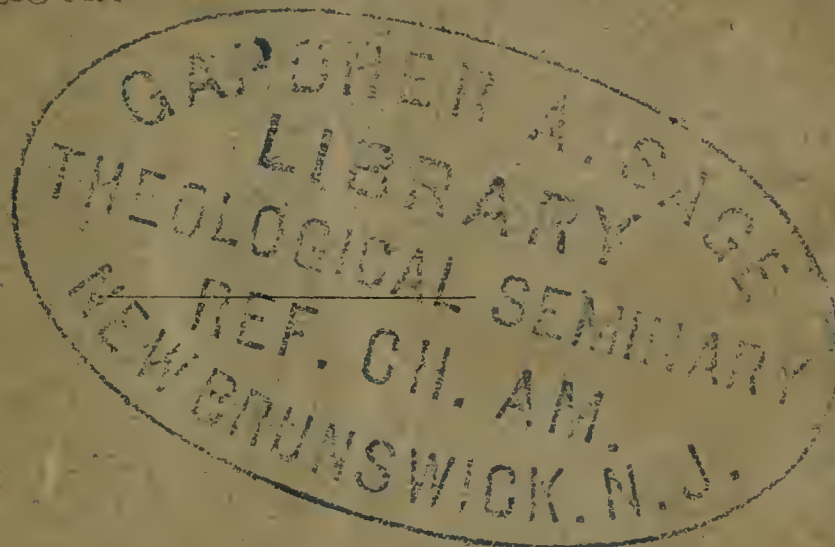


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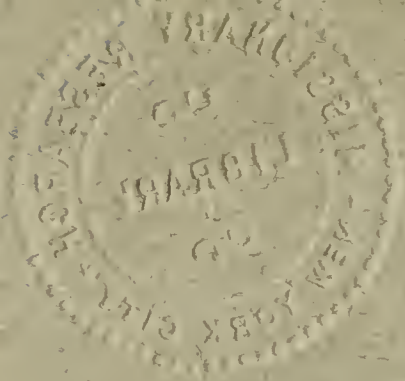


Pam. Africa ^{West} Coppinger
Liberia



A NEW WORLD.

(Liberia and Congo)



A NEW WORLD.

There is no movement in our day more interesting or significant than that which draws the eyes of the nations toward Africa. Annexation and colonization are rapidly giving permanent political relations to all parts of the land and to all its inhabitants. Great trading companies have taken their posts on every unoccupied coast, on nearly every available river course, and are planting their factories far inland, to reach and develop the unknown resources of this mighty territory. Scientific forces are equally active and energetic. Exploration is going forward most systematically and persistently from many points on the eastern, western and southern shores; national societies and private corporations are thus engaged in tracing out physical features and accurately locating peoples, cities and towns, and the Christian world is alert in founding missionary stations among almost every tribe of the wonderful Continent.

GOVERNMENTAL.

A curious feature of the times is the disposition of the chief powers of Europe to "annex" African territory. Great Britain and Germany seem anxious to compete with each other in unfurling "protection" flags on the shores of the "Dark Continent."

A decree announcing that the British government had assumed the protectorate over the country lying north of Cape Colony—bounded on the north by the parallel of latitude 22 deg. south, on the west by 20 deg. east longitude, and on the east by the border line of the Transvaal territory—marks a new era in the history of South Africa. A more important order is that "the British protectorate of the Niger district comprises the territories on the line of coast between the British protectorate of Lagos and the right or western river bank of the mouth of the Rio del Rey. It further comprises the territories on both banks of the river Binue from the confluence up to and including Ibi." It will thus be seen that the whole of the Niger mouths are now under British protection, and that in the south the British possessions march with those of Germany. Ibi is about 230 miles up the Binue from its confluence with the Niger.

The future seizure of the territory on the west coast by Great Britain and Germany is thus regulated by agreement;—"Great Britain engages not to make acquisitions of territory, accept protectorates or interfere with the extension of German influences in that part of the coast of the Gulf of Guinea, or in the interior districts to the east of the following line—that is, on the coast, the right bank of the Rio del Rey, entering the sea between 8 deg. 42 min. and 8 deg. 46 min. longitude east of Greenwich; in the interior a line following the right river bank of the Rio del Rey from the said mouth to its source, then striking direct to the left river bank of the Old Calabar or Cross river, and terminating after crossing that river at the point about 9 deg. 8 min. of longitude east of Greenwich, marked 'Rapids' on the English Admiralty chart. Germany engages not to make acquisitions, accept protectorates, or interfere with the extension of British influence in that part of the coast of the Gulf of Guinea lying between the right river bank of the mouth of the Rio del Rey, as above described, and the British colony of Lagos; nor in the interior to the west of the line traced in the preceding paragraph. Both powers agree to withdraw any protectorate already established within the limits thus assigned to the other, a reservation being specially made as to the settlement of Victoria, Amba Bay, which will continue to be British possessions. Germany engages to withdraw her protest against the hoisting of the British flag at Santa Lucia Bay, and to refrain from making acquisitions of territory, or establishing protectorates on the coast between the colony of Natal and Delagoa Bay."

Commenting on the decision of the British government to strengthen the fortifications at Sierra Leone, St. Helena, Table Bay and Simon's Bay, the leading journal at Freetown says: "Our colony has been selected as the most convenient station between England and the Cape of Good Hope into which her Majesty's ships-of-war and mercantile vessels may safely put for shelter and supplies in case of emergency. To adapt this port for this and other purposes the imperial government have proposed to spend the round sum of £52,000, of which £30,000 are to be devoted to works and £22,000 to armament. The safety and convenience of our harbor, together with other considerations, place Sierra Leone at an advantage over the other West African colonies, and it is but natural that the choice of the British Government should have fallen on this settlement." The British Government has ordered an increase in the consular staff in Western Africa, especially to stimulate trade on the Congo. Hon. Herr Gerhard Rohlfs, appointed consul-general of Germany, is the bearer of a letter, translated into Arabic, from the Emperor William to the Sultan of Zanzibar. The German flag has been raised on the

river Dubreka, claimed by France. Coba is about twelve and Kabatai thirty square miles in extent, with a population of 30,000. Commissioner Herr Falkenthal has there entered on his duties, and the Governor of the Cameroons, Baron Von Soden, has arrived out in company with Chancellor Von Puttkamer.

The Sultan of Zanzibar has been notified that the regions to the west of his dominions have been placed under German protection, and a German consular judge appointed to exercise jurisdiction over them. Pangani, lying to the north of Usagaea, containing some 4,500 square miles, has also been transferred to the German empire. A steamer, constructed mostly of steel, to be at the service of the Governor of the Cameroons, has been launched at Kiel, receiving the appropriate name of *Nachtigal*. The German parliament has voted 187,500 francs for African explorations.

France continues her aggressive operations about the headwaters of the Niger, and she has seized Grand Popo and neighboring ports. The latter acquisition is sandwiched between the British settlements around Cape Coast and Whydah. Spain has a revival of her old colonial spirit, and has annexed the coast between Cape Bogador, a little to the south of Morocco and Cape Blauco, (20 deg. 21 min. N.,) both included, and in the Gulf of Guinea claims the coast line from the Muni river, which forms the northern boundary of the French possessions on the Gaboon, (0 deg. 43 min. N.,) to the Rio Campo, (2 deg. 41 min. N.) Portugal has organized her Congo possessions to remain under the authority of the Governor-General of Angola. Cabinda has been fixed upon as the seat of government for the new district and the residence of the Lieutenant-Governor. Italy has seized Massowah and dispatched expeditions to the Congo country and to another unoccupied portion of the "Dark Continent."

Why should not the powers of Europe, especially England, France and Germany, leave defenceless Africa alone, restricting themselves to legitimate commerce? All public law is set aside, all the conventional decencies of warfare, all idea of *meum* and *teum* are put out of sight. A government agent and vessel drop along the coast and hoist up a flag in token that that particular town, whether part of Damaraland or Namaqualand, or the Cameroons, or the Gold Coast, has ceased to belong to the tribe which has inhabited it for centuries, and is transferred to a European power. In the scramble for African territory the points of collision between rival nations will naturally increase, and a conflagration that will sweep over Europe may be kindled from a stray spark struck in Africa.

THE BERLIN CONFERENCE.

There is every reason to hope that the results of the International

Conference held at Berlin will prove all that the friends of Africa could reasonably expect. It would be impossible to enter fully into the several provisions of the *Acte Generale* passed by the Conference; it will suffice to give briefly their main import.

The principle of free commerce in its widest sense was established in the immense basin of the Congo—a maritime belt of 360 miles along the Atlantic, was placed on the same footing, and its future extension to the east coast made probable on a still vaster scale. In this wide territory no import duties will be levied for twenty years, nor will such dues ever be exacted in the possessions of the International African Association, which constitute by far the largest part. Native and white men have similar rights guaranteed to them. All religions are tolerated, whilst the protection of the aborigines and the proscription of the slave trade are to be the fundamental principles of public law in the states and colonies of Central Africa.

It was further enacted that special measures are to be adopted, both by land and sea, against the slave trade, which continues to be the great scourge of Central Africa, and one of the principal obstacles to civilization.

It was provided that States constituted in the basin of the Congo, and powers founding colonies there, will have the right of neutralizing their possessions, either perpetually or temporarily.

One of the dispositions adopted by the Conference tends to prevent European wars from extending to Africa, and in the event of disagreements arising in Africa itself between the powers of the basin of the Congo, recourse will be had to mediation if not arbitration.

The free navigation of the Congo and its affluents was proclaimed, comprising an extent of above 5,000 kiloms, (3,106 miles,) open to flags of all nations; and what applies to the river will, accordingly to a somewhat original idea, apply also to railway, canal or road supplying the place of any obstructed part of the river. The transit dues must only be such as will compensate the cost of works executed in the bed of the river or commercial establishments erected on its banks.

An international commission, to which each of the contracting powers has a right to appoint a delegate, is specially charged to see that all nations benefit equally from the freedom of navigation and transit. It will at the same time have to provide in concert with the riverine powers for the improvement or maintenance of the *regime fluviale*, the security of navigators, and the carrying out of necessary improvements.

All works and establishments are neutralized in time of war, and lastly, the act passed declares that the navigation of the Congo shall

remain open in time of war for ships of all nations, both belligerent as well as neutral, and that private property will be respected, even though under an enemy's flag, on all the waters covered by the act.

These dispositions constitute a remarkable progress in international law, and confirm those principles adopted by Belgium, and to which she owes the emancipation of her principal river. They moreover embody the spirit of all the treaties concluded by the International African Association, and set forth the objects it has pursued.

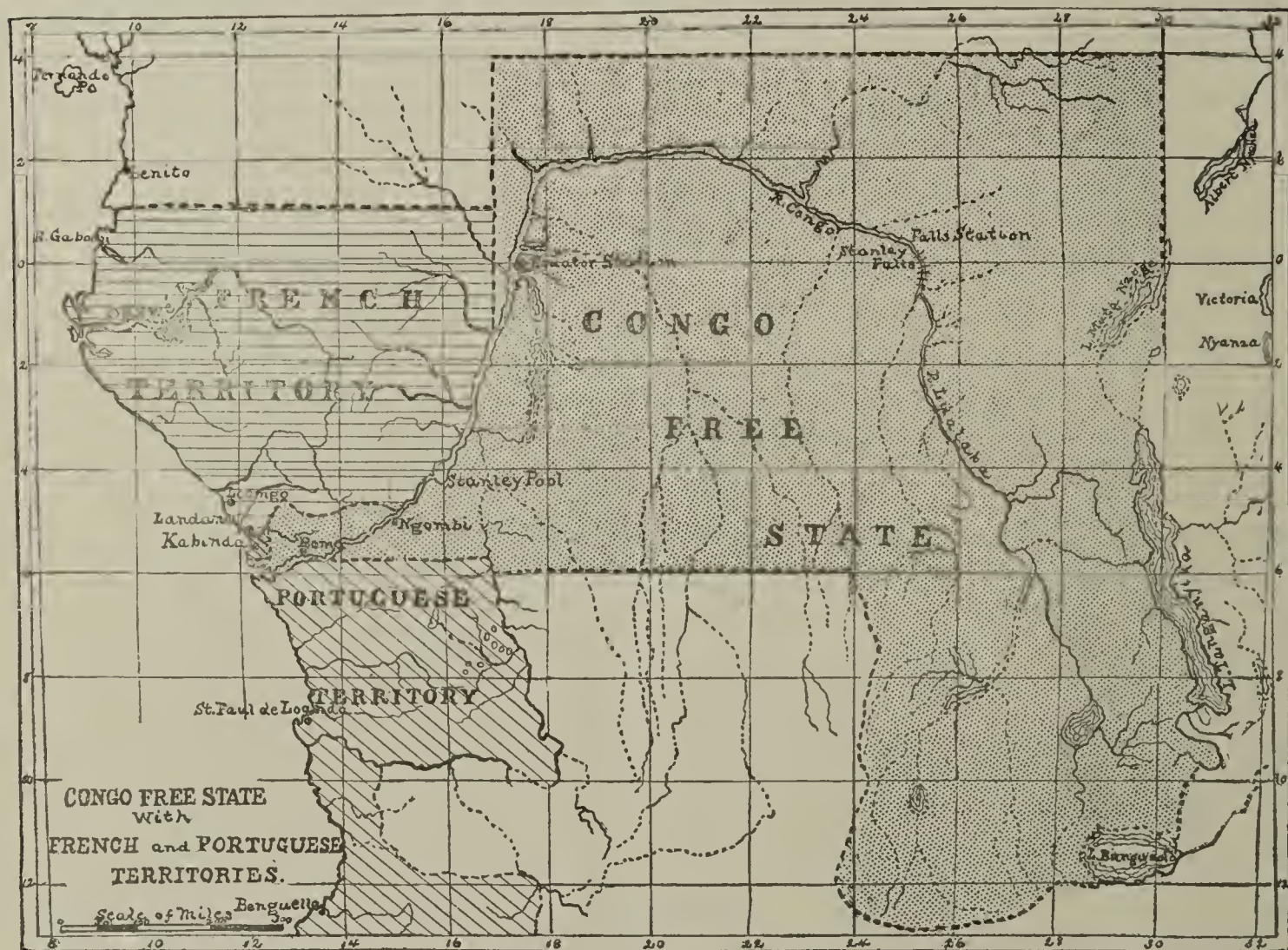
While the Conference were sitting at Berlin the International African Association concluded treaties with England, Denmark, Italy, Austria, Holland, Belgium, Russia, Spain and the United Kingdom of Sweden and Norway, whereby all these powers agreed to recognize its flag as that of a friendly State, the Association engaging on its side to accord to the subjects of these powers full rights.

A further important negotiation was concluded during the meeting of the Conference in reference to the territorial limits of the new Free State and those of the French and Portuguese possessions in the same region—much disputed matters which were not settled until after long and interrupted negotiation. A final arrangement was, however, happily arrived at, and a treaty was signed at Paris, and on the 17th of February an analogous one was concluded with Portugal.

By those treaties the question of the ancient claims of Portugal to the mouth of the Congo was definitely decided. Had it not been thus disposed of, serious complications might have arisen in the future, and the whole work of the International Association been marred. Instead of this a definite agreement, sanctioned by all the powers, has been made, and a new region opened to the commerce and industry of the civilized world.

The frontiers of the three powers will be best studied on a map illustrating the Congo region, but it may be mentioned that, by the convention with Portugal, this power gets the south or left bank of the Congo, from its mouth to Nokki, a distance of ninety miles, where there is a Portuguese and a French factory, the Association retaining the right bank, with twenty-three miles of coast, extending from Banana to a point south of Cabinda Bay. Here Portuguese territory again begins, so as to enclose the districts around Cabinda, Melembo, Saudana and Massabe, where the Association has long been established. This Portuguese *enclave*, as it is called, extends inland for thirty or forty miles, as far east as the Suendu, a tributary of the Chiloango. From Nokki the Portuguese frontier runs east to the Kwango, a tributary of the Congo, and there turns south. By the

convention with France the Association yields to this power the whole of the valley of the Kwilu, called on its upper reaches the Niadi, where it was in possession of large tracts of country and had established eighteen stations. In exchange for this concession it retained the left bank of Stanley Pool, which France had claimed through an act of annexation of De Brazza's lieutenant, Malamine. Above Manayunga, and up the Congo to a point beyond the river Sikona, this river forms the boundary between African France and the Free State. Beyond this again the territory of the latter widens considerably, comprising a wide unexplored belt on either side of the river to lakes Tanganyika and Bangweolo.



THE CONGO FREE STATE.*

We are glad to give a sketch-map of the new Congo Free State, indicating also the French and Portuguese territories adjoining, according to the settlement recently made in connection with the Ber-

* Acknowledgment of obligations is gratefully made to the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions for the above "map of the New Congo Free State," and to the *Missionary Herald*, of Boston; *Foreign Missionary* of New York, and *African Times*, of London, for facts and figures freely incorporated in this and preceding papers.

lin Conference. This map has been prepared from a larger colored map given in the *Proceedings* of the English Royal Geographical Society. The French territory is designated by parallel lines, the Portuguese by diagonal lines, and the Free State by the area which is tinted. A small section on the coast north of the Congo, embracing a region thirty or forty miles inland, is also assigned to the Portuguese, but is not very clearly indicated on our map. It will be seen that the territory of the Free State extends south of the Congo river to a point below the rapids, thus giving it control of what must be the highway from the sea to the Upper Congo. The railroad around the Falls, from tide water to Stanley Pool, is to pass on the south bank of the river. The area of the Free State is about 1,300,000 square miles. The flag of the new State is a field of blue with a golden star in the centre. Long may this flag wave over a State truly free!

MR. STANLEY IN LIBERIA.

If our limits allowed, we should be glad to make copious extracts from Mr. Stanley's valuable book on the "Congo Free State," the perusal of which has suggested the following, which our experience has already indicated. First—That the most important impressions yet made upon the central or remote portions of the "Dark Continent" have been made by private enterprise. As illustrations of this we have the work of missionary societies; the effects produced by the establishment of Liberia by the American Colonization Society; and now the vast transforming taking place in the hitherto most neglected part of that country under the influence of the International African Association. Second—The next idea prominently held out is that the human agencies for effective reforming or meliorating work on Africa, especially among white men, are rare and difficult to find. Mr. Stanley's experience, even of some of the most promising of his European assistants has been discouraging. He thus refers to them, vol. i, p. 465:

"Experience has taught me already that to leave my principal base in the hands of flighty-headed young people who recognized no higher law than their own impulses and passions, was to prepare for myself endless trouble and continual anxiety. I needed a solid, reliable gentleman of sufficient reputation and weight of judgment to inspire respect in his subordinates; one whose name would be a guarantee for stability of character, whose word would be as good as his bond, and whose past conduct might be taken as an indubitable proof that his future actions would be also highly creditable to him. Such persons—so new to the necessities of a hard practical life, that they

at once confessed themselves crushed in the presence of every new exigency they encountered, or such, as soon as they were left alone to contend against trivial troubles of tropic life, had no other resource than to send a letter of resignation to their chief and incontinently throw up their command and run away to Europe—could not be trusted with so responsible command in so important an enterprise. These people had already given me more trouble than all the African tribes put together. They had inspired such distrust in me that I would rather be condemned to be a bootblack all my life than to be a dry nurse to beings who had no higher claim to manhood than that externally they might be pretty pictures of men.”

“Unfledged Europeans, fresh from their homes, brimful of intolerable conceit, and indifferent to aught else save what submits to their own prejudices, are not as a rule the best material to work with for the civilization of the African.”—Vol. 1, p. 57.

The subjoined confession, Mr. Stanley says, might be truthfully written by young men who returned home after finding themselves incompetent to cope with the life and work of Africa!

“When in Europe we were men who believed ourselves capable of heroic work and immense effort, could we but have the opportunity of proving our strength, our natural wit, our native valor, our acquired intelligence, and our fortitude under privations; but, alas! when we landed in Africa we discovered that most of us were without nerve, without wit or fortitude; that our strength and much of our native valor in which we had prided ourselves had vanished, and *that our acquired intelligence was valueless*, since we had never known the practical art of living away from the guardianship and sympathy of our parents, and when privations confronted us we completely collapsed.”—Vol. 2, p. 238.

In the labors of the American Colonization Society in Liberia there has been repeated experience of this nature, even among colored men who have left this country, having excited the highest expectations of their usefulness. Some have no doubt been earnest and conscientious, but owing to a lack of practical experience and too great confidence in their “acquired intelligence,” they have, when confronted with the new circumstances of Africa, “completely collapsed.” Mr. Stanley continues his description of such persons:

“Instead of meeting the usual convenience of civilization, which they seem to have taken for granted already existed, they found themselves confronted and repelled by the task of preparing these for later comers, and by the drudgery and toil it involved. They were quite prepared to enjoy the labor of the earliest pioneers, but they were extremely loth to undertake to do for their successors what they

had inconsiderately assumed was already accomplished for themselves. In the presence of this astonishing revelation I began to hear words and phrases that sounded strangely to me. * * *

These were *amour propre*—self-love? ‘susceptibilities’—vanity? * *

* Little by little we discovered that these magnificent men not only lacked the necessary attainments, but were also most poor in the spirit of endeavor.”—Vol. 2, pp. 239—40,

Mr. Stanley’s book should be carefully studied by all who contemplate laboring in Africa or co-operating on this side of the Atlantic with those who labor there, and a copy should be in the library of our colored educational institutions.

As was to be expected from men who find themselves confronted by what to them are insurmountable difficulties, not a few of Mr. Stanley’s disappointed co-workers have not only left Africa, but have denounced and continue to denounce him as the cause of their troubles by having misrepresented the reality to them before they left their homes.

Referring to the recognition by the United States government of the flag of the International African Association, in 1884, and to the efforts of Gen. Sanford in bringing about that result, Mr. Stanley, who has often visited Liberia, thus speaks of the young republic—vol. 2, p. 382:

“The American people had evidently forgotten that it was through the philanthropy of their fellow citizens that the free State of Liberia had been founded, to the establishment of which they had contributed \$2,558,987 of their money to create homes and comforts for the 18,000 free Africans they dispatched to settle there. This State, *which they might regard with honest pride* had now an area of 14,300 square miles and a revenue of \$100,000. * * * It was an act well worthy of the great Republic, not only as taking the lead in publicly recognizing and supporting the great work of African civilization in history, and in promoting the extension of commerce, but of significant import *in view of its interest for the future weal of the seven millions people of African descent within its borders.*”

EXPLORATIONS.

Mr. H. H. Johnston has returned to London from an examination of Mount Kilimanjaro. He started from Mombasa, and passed some time in Mantara’s country, which he reports as remarkably fertile and well watered. After leaving Taveta he crossed the cultivated zone, which ended at an altitude of 5,500 feet, and entered a district with pleasant grassy knolls and many streams of running water,

camping beside a lovely fern-choked brook at 6,500 feet high, the whole ascent being very gradual. The river Kilema, which takes its source near the base of Kimawanza, is at an altitude of nearly 10,000 feet. Here the thermometer descended every night to one or two degrees below freezing point. Proceeding higher up the mountain, over grassy, undulating hillocks, varied with patches of snow, at 12,000 feet, Mr. Johnson struck a stream flowing in a south-southwest direction, amid thick vegetation. Beyond 13,000 feet up the mountain he discovered that the water was warm, the temperature of the tricking mud being 91 degrees Fahr. Vegetables only grew in dwarfed patches, and the ground was covered with boulders, while at 13,700 feet he saw the last resident bird. A few hundred feet higher up the mountain was enveloped in fog; suddenly the clouds parted, and he looked upon a blaze of snow so blinding white under the brief flicker of sunlight that he could see but little detail. Pressing forward he at last, despite mountain sickness, reached the chain of snow, having attained to within 2,000 feet of the summit, which is estimated to be at an altitude of 18,000 feet. On the way downwards by another route Mr. Johnston again passed through miles of well watered, fruitful country, "singularly English in appearance," which was, however, entirely uninhabited except by buffaloes and elephants. The average elevation of this district was between 7,000 and 8,000 feet, the temperature ranging from 43 degrees at night to 75 degrees at midday.

Mr. H. E. O'Neill, British consul at Mozambique, thus summarizes, in an address at Edinburgh, his discoveries: "The chief results have been to open up three new routes between the Nyassa district and the east coast: 1. Between Mozambique and lake Shirwa and Blantyre; 2, from Blantyre to the Portuguese settlements of Angoche and Parapato; 3, from Quillimane to Blantyre. The Nyassa may now be reached by the longest route in thirty days, and by that from Quillimane to Blantyre in fourteen. The country passed over is well populated, food abundant and the people peaceable, helpful and industrious. There are difficulties of course—African travel is never without them—but any or all of the three routes laid down may be constantly traversed and become most valuable channels for the development of the trade and agriculture of the country." Mr. O'Neill claims to have been fortunate enough to discover three minor lakes—one, lake Lidedi, just south of the Rovuma, and close to lake Nagardi, of which Livingstone first heard as he passed north of that river upon his last travels. The others are lakes Amaramba and Chenta, which have their outlet in the river Luŷenda. "When in the neighborhood of these lakes I closely investigated the question of the

supposed connection of lake Shirwa with the Lujenda drainage system, and satisfied myself that there was no point of junction between them. Lake Shirwa is divided from the lakes Chenta and Amaramba by a broad, elevated ridge of sandy soil, lightly wooded and covered with thick undergrowth, and I have nowhere detected traces of inundation or evidence of the rising of lake Shirwa above the level of its foot. It is possible that a subterranean junction exists, and this view is held by many natives."

Rev. George Grenfell reports an examination made by him of the Mobangi river, which enters the Congo a little southwest of the point where the great river crosses the equator. The Mobangi comes from a region which is now a blank on our African maps. He ascended the river over three hundred miles, finding it a magnificent stream, full of islands, and its banks more densely populated than any section of the Congo of equal extent. Mr. Grenfell is to undertake a further exploration to determine the question whether the Welli belongs to the river system of the Chad or of the Congo.

Lieut. Giraud has given an account at Paris of his attempt to cross the Continent, having explored Uemba, between the four great lakes, Nyassa, Tanganyika, Bangeweolo and Moero. This district, he declares, is the most powerful, if not the richest, he traversed. Reaching the Luapala, he arrived at the capital of Mere Mere. Here he was deserted by his porters, and the obstacles in the way of carrying out his plan compelled him to return, which he did via Nyassa and the Shire and Quillimane, reaching Zanzibar just two years from the day on which he started. It may be added to the foregoing that Major Serpa Pinto's expedition to the interior has failed, he having arrived at Mozambique after a sad experience of fever. He proposes, however, to make a fresh start in the hope of reaching the region which Lieut. Giraud visited.

Lieut. Weissman, who entered at St. Paul de Loando twenty months ago, has arrived at Stanley Pool, having traversed a large extent of territory. He represents the rivers Lulna, Sankaru, Kassaia and Lubilash, instead of flowing north, all turn westward and unite in one stream, which bears several names, but which it is safe to term the Kassai. This stream absorbs the Kwango, and still tending west, receives the waters flowing from lake Leopold, and then empties itself at Kivamouth. The country is beautiful and the people friendly.

Capt. Capello and Commander Ivens, who left Mossamedes in March, 1884, at the expense of the Portuguese government and the Lisbon Geographical Society, arrived at the Cape of Good Hope in August. Having explored the affluents of the Zambezi, they entered Gananganja, in the heart of the Continent. The country, they say, is

prolific in minerals. They then went to the Zambezi river, having traveled a distance of 4,200 miles in about sixteen months. The inhabitants of that hitherto unknown part are described by Capt. Cappello as warlike, but his party met with no serious opposition. In some cases they were treated with marked kindness. The two explorers started again for Mossamedes with the intention of returning to Europe by way of the Congo.

Dr. Aurel Schulz has returned to Berlin from a journey made from Natal to the interior, including an examination of the Victoria Falls. He says the whole river Zambezi rushes over a cleft in the rocks four hundred and fifty feet high, but owing to the cloud of vapor always rising from the bottom, it was impossible to get a clear view of the falls. A short distance below a splendid sight was obtained of the "Devil's Kettle," another fall quite equal in beauty, if not in size, to the other. Near here the doctor engaged a Dutch hunter to guide him to Matambanje, and he then struck across the country to Linyanti. It was with the utmost difficulty our explorer reached Matambanje, which he represents as six hundred miles from the Atlantic seaboard.

Intelligence has been received of the movements making on the Congo by the employers Junckee and Casati, and that the Portuguese commercial expedition to Manica, under Capt. Paiva Andraide, is making satisfactory progress.

It should be remembered that Liberia has produced more explorers of Africa, educated on the spot, than any European colony on the coast. James L. Sims spoke the Vey language. Benjamin Anderson, who has twice performed the journey to Musardu, wrote a book which was so appreciated by Sir Roderick Murchison, president of the Royal Geographical Society at the time of its publication, that he gave it a place in the library by the side of the works of Park, Denham and Clapperton. Rev. Dr. Edward W. Blyden, the only Negro ever entrusted by the British government at Sierra Leone to explore the interior and make treaties with powerful chiefs, was sent to Liberia under the auspices of the American Colonization Society.

This is the programme of the next expedition to leave England at the expense of the Royal Geographical Society, commanded by J. T. Last, who, as a lay agent of the Church Missionary Society, has done admirable work in the Zanzibar interior. Mr. Last, after making up his caravan at Zanzibar, will proceed south to Lindi, to the north of the mouth of the Rovume and Lugende rivers, and fix the longitude of the junction—an important geographical point not yet settled. He will then go on in a generally southwestern direction, and before reaching the north end of lake Shirwa turn southwards and

make for the Namulli Hills, which, with other features in this region, were discovered by Consul O'Neill, in 1883. Here Mr. Last will establish himself and make a detailed study of the whole region in all its aspects, including a complete survey of the surrounding country, its topography, people, botany, economic products, climate and languages. When this is completed Mr. Last will enter the valley of the Likuga river, which rises in the neighborhood of these hills, and follow it down to the coast of Quizungu, whence he will travel south to Quillimane or north to Angoche, and thence to Mozambique.

Mr. Joseph Thomson has returned to London, having accomplished the mission with which he was entrusted by the African Trading Company. He is stated to have made treaties with the Sultans of Gando and Sokotu which give the company commercial command of the Niger almost to Timbuctoo, and of the Binue, its principal tributary, to the limits of navigation. The Academy of Sciences of Berlin have intrusted Dr. Schweinfurth with a mission to Central Africa. Dr. Herr W. Flegel is to ascend the Niger to the Binue, when he will proceed up the latter and then southward, in the interests of German commerce. Dr. Oscar Lenz is preparing to explore the watershed between the Nile and the Congo. Two expeditions are reported to be bound for Umzilla's Kraal. The first is a special commission dispatched by the Portuguese government, which landed at Chihian, went across to Sofaia, and so inland. Its object is not clearly defined. The other expedition, led by a Major of the Portuguese artillery, is connected with the "Ophir Company," which was incorporated at Lisbon last year. Its object is to obtain permission to open anew the celebrated ancient mines of Manika.

Capt. Cecchi has been dispatched by the Italian government to Africa for the purposes of exploration. He is the author of a grammar and dictionary of the languages spoken by the Galla, Kaffa, Somali and Afar tribes, soon to be published by the Italian Geographical Society. Lieut. Massari has begun the scientific exploration of the Quango, from Konamouth to its junction with the Congo.

RAILROADS.

The project of making a railway from the Congo estuary to Stanley Pool is attracting the attention of financiers and others. The government at Cape Colony is enlarging its political and commercial influence northward by interior railroad routes. Four hundred thousand pounds (£400,000) have been appropriated by the British government for constructing a railway from Cape Town to Kimberley.

CABLES.

It is announced that the British government has guaranteed a subsidy to a contractor who is preparing to lay a cable between St.

Vincent and the chief places on the west and south coasts of Africa to Cape Town. The steamship Silverthorn sailed October 10 with the first portion of a cable which the India Rubber, Gutta Percha and Telegraph Works Company (limited) have contracted with the Portuguese government to lay along the west coast of Africa, touching chiefly at Portuguese settlements. Upon the arrival of the Silverthorn at St. Thiago the cable is to be connected with the existing line from Lisbon, touching at St. Vincent, from which latter place telegraphic communication is already established with St. Thiago. An alternative line has already been laid from Cadiz through the Canary Isles to St. Louis, on the west coast of Africa, and from the latter place a cable will be laid to Bathurst, 223 miles further south, where it will be joined by the cable now to be laid from St. Thiago. The new cable now connected at Bathurst with Europe by two different lines will then be laid for a distance of 573 miles to Sierra Leone while subsidiary cables will be laid along the coast, touching at Bissao, Bullama, Rio Nunez and Sierra Leone, thus again giving duplicate communications with Europe. From Sierra Leone the main cable will be laid to Accra, a distance of 1,186 miles. It is intended to continue the cable from Accra to the Cameroons, and through St. Thomas to St. Paul de Loando, south of the Congo, with which place communication will also be established. This finishes the immediate work in hand, but a further contract has already been entered into to prolong the cable from St. Paul de Loando to the Cape of Good Hope, and this additional cable is now in process of manufacture. The latter line will touch at Nova, Redona, Benguela, Mossamedes, Wal-fish Bay, Port Nolieth and Cape Town. On the completion of the work the cables will be handed over to the West African Telegraph Company, who will carry out the undertaking.

GOLD AND DIAMONDS.

Gold mining in West Africa has not succeeded. The gold is there, but lack of capital and transportation have contributed to the ill-fortune that has attended these enterprises, and even the best have had to contend with difficulties of climate and labor. There seems no end to the new discoveries of gold in South Africa. Information from the Transvaal is to the effect that a paying reef, yielding one and one-half ounces to the ton, has been found in Matabeleland, and that a concession to work it has been granted by Lobengolo, chief of the Matabele natives, to a company which has started working with small plants of steam crushing machinery, through the use of which twelve bars of solid gold weighing one pound apiece have been secured from the first trial crushing. Rejoicings have taken place at

Pretoria and Appolonia owing to a display of gold discovered close to those places. Persevering men with good health, and who have capital, crushing machinery and a supply of provisions for six months, stand a fair chance of becoming wealthy in time.

South Africa enjoys a virtual monopoly of the diamond market of the world. A diamond has recently been found there weighing 475 carats, said to be greatly superior in color and brilliancy to all the other famous diamonds known. Another large diamond from the De Beer mine weighs 128 carats in its rough state, and is of perfect octahedron shape. It is about an inch through in its longest and deepest parts, and in its present state is valued at about fifteen thousand pounds, but when cut the price will be very much more. It is considered one of the most famous gems of the world, and is called "The President." A letter from Kimberley represents that no less than \$5,000,000 is annually paid in that town alone in wages for diamond digging. And from this oasis in the agricultural desert has been sent in the last fifteen years something like \$200,000,000 worth of diamonds in the rough, which, with the cost of cutting, setting and selling, must have taken from consumers a sum not far short of \$500,000,000.

TRADE.

Though the commerce of Africa, in common with every branch of trade all over the world, is passing through a period of almost unparalleled depression, there are not wanting indications that a revival of traffic is near at hand. The prospectus of the British Congo Company (limited) is published at Manchester with a capital of £500,000, divided into shares of £5 each. Last year the imports into the Congo district are stated to have amounted to £888,000, and the exports to some £2,000,000, so that in round numbers the trade may be roughly estimated at nearly £3,000,000 annually. The West African Trading Company (limited) has been formed with a capital of £250,000, in 25,000 shares of £10 each. The National African Company declared June 30 a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum. The Cameroons Agricultural and Plantation Company, and the East African Company are organizations of mercantile, manufacturing and banking firms at Hamburg for the development of Africa. The German Colonial Society of Berlin has announced its intention of forthwith founding stations on the upper Binue, and a preliminary sum of £7,500 has been appropriated for the undertaking.

The steam shipping interest at the present time is in a depressed state. The African Steamship Company, at the late meeting of the directors, declared that not only were they unprepared to pay a divi-

dend, but they were unable to write off any depreciation. The Germans have established a monthly line of steamers between Hamburg and the West African coast. Under arrangements with the Portuguese government and the International Association, the council of the Castle Mail Packets Company (limited) have a direct mail service between Europe, the Congo and the Portuguese possessions in Africa. Southampton will be the port of departure and arrival in England, and the steamers will proceed from the Congo to St. Paul de Loando and Mossamedes, and thence to Algoa Bay, Natal and Delagoa Bay.

English enterprise will soon supply a want long felt in West Africa, viz., an investing and commercial bank, a company having been formed with a capital of £1,000,000 sterling. The head office will be in Liverpool, with branches at Lagos, Sierra Leone and Cape Coast.

Lieut. Albert G. S. Hawes has been appointed British consul in the territories of the kings and chiefs of the districts adjacent to lake Nyassa. The newly appointed German Imperial commissioner for Angra Pequena, Justice Goring, is to journey via Cape Town to Angra Pequena, in order to visit the interior of that possession, being accompanied by Referendary Nels and an under officer of the Guards Regiment at Berlin. Herr Schmidt has left Berlin for the Cameroons, there to act as German consul.

The British exports to West Africa are thus given: Total exports for ten years, 1853-62—British possessions, £3,731,888; foreign and native territory, £10,158,665; total, £13,890,553. Ten years, 1863-1872—British possessions, £6,371,905; foreign and native territory, £10,110,568; total, £16,482,473. Ten years, 1873-82—British possessions, £8,557,883; foreign and native territory, £12,917,220; total, £21,475,103. Total exports to British West African possessions for 1883—Gold Coast and Lagos, £510,213; Gambia and Sierra Leone, £415,801; total, £926,014. This is made up as follows: cotton goods, £560,451; other British goods, £295,035. Tobacco, spirits and other foreign goods exported is very nearly double as much as all other articles put together.

Too long the vast material advantages to be derived by this country from a proper cultivation of the opportunities offered in Africa for commerce and colonization have been neglected. The wealth of the Continent is as extensive and varied as it is undeveloped, while the fact that these latent riches lie within a comparative short distance of our own shores should have the effect of exciting a far greater amount of attention in the minds of capitalists in the United States than has hitherto been the case. The vast commercial resources of the region south of the Upper Niger are accumulated in large towns not far beyond the eastern boundary of Liberia, from which they are

diverted to Sierra Leone and elsewhere to the north. It would be a comparatively easy matter to bring this traffic to its natural channel. If American capital could be introduced into Liberia, which the Liberians prefer, the traffic at the populous towns, Medina, Musardu and Boporo, would readily increase till the laborious and expensive journey to Sierra Leone would be exchanged by the Mandinga traders for the easy and cheap one to Liberia.

The Government of the United States has dispatched expeditions to the Arctic regions, the Dead Sea, Japan and South America for scientific and commercial purposes. Why not send a party to explore West Africa, from Monrovia to the Niger, to secure its productive resources? A naval officer of high rank, and who has won distinction by his successful efforts to extend American commerce, has volunteered his valuable services to lead in so important a survey. An appropriation by Congress of \$25,000, to be expended under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, should be made in this behalf. The people of the United States can claim Liberia alone as their part of Africa.

THE SOUDAN.

The capture of Khartoum and massacre of the heroic and no less heroic Christian General Gordon, the death of El Mahdi and the evacuation of Soudan by the British troops under Sir Garnet Wolseley, have followed each other in rapid succession. The literal meaning of the word Mahdi is *he who is led*. It is an epithet which may be applied to any prophet, or even to any ordinary person, but used as a proper name it signifies one who is beyond all others, "well guided," Heaven directed, sent of God to be a leader of His people. According to the Mohammedan idea, the true Mahdi will outrank all other prophets and divine messengers that have appeared. He will come to earth to accomplish the last things, to convert Christians and idolators to Islamism and lead the faithful in triumph at the judgment day. Mohammed Ahmed was undoubtedly a man of force of character, and probably a believer in his own appointed mission. His proclamations and other writings that fell into the hands of his enemies showed him to be a man of intelligence and shrewdness. He evidently knew how to gain an ascendancy over the minds of the ignorant and fanatical, and how to hold it. His death will doubtless end the revolt in the Soudan for the present, or until another Mahdi shall appear.

ENSLAVEMENTS.

Rev. David D. Day, Superintendent of Lutheran Missions in West Africa, writes: "The vilest liquors imaginable are being poured into Africa in shiploads from almost every quarter of the civilized

world. On one small vessel, in which myself and wife were the only passengers, there were in the hold over 100,000 gallons of *New England rum*, which sold on this coast for one dollar a gallon in exchange for palm oil, rubber, camwood and other produce common to the country. I have seen landed from one steamer at a single port 10,000 cases of gin, each containing twelve three-pint bottles, and this was but a drop in the mighty inflowing tide. At another time 7,000 cases were landed on a Sabbath morning. Almost every ship comes loaded with vast quantities of intoxicants, so that the devastating flood now rolling interiorward is something awful to contemplate. All along the coast are scattered trading stations, the bulk of their business being liquor. From three to four thousand cases of gin and fifteen hundred demijohns of rum is an average monthly sale for a store of any pretensions."

Herr Bublitz contributes to the *Reichsanzeiger* an article entitled "Bilder aus Kamerun," wherein he says that immense quantities of spirits, in great part of the worst, and indeed of a poisonous quality, are introduced into the Cameroons. The pernicious effect of these liquors on the population is manifest, more so physically. Rev. A. Mabile says: "Brandy is being literally poured into South Africa. Surely the British government cannot know what is going on and the ruin that is staring us in the face, or something would be done to help us. Oh, cannot England save these poor people from these unprincipled men, who are doing their utmost to destroy the good which the Gospel has done to the Basutos? All the chiefs have become drunkards, with one or two exceptions. How and where will it all end?"

What an unmitigated disgrace to Christian lands that, in addition to all the misery they have brought upon Africa in past generations by aiding the slave trade, they should now help to still further destroy her people by making them slaves of appetite!

The volume recently issued by the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, containing the proceedings of the Society at its two jubilee meetings, brings freshly to view the fact that the slave trade in Africa has by no means been suppressed. It is an occasion for gratitude that so many able and prominent Englishmen of all shades of political and religious opinion, should have met together to reaffirm their hostility to the nefarious traffic, and their purpose to oppose it in all practicable ways. A telegram from Zanzibar states that 2,000 rescued slaves have just been handed by the British authorities to the Church missionary at Frere Town. Arab dhows are continually crossing the Red sea, laden with slaves. Mr. Stanley reports that on his recent tour along the upper Congo he discovered a camp of 2,300

slaves, principally women and children, and that this supply had been secured by the burning of 118 villages and the devastation of 43 districts. The Rev. Chauncey Maples declares that during a residence of six years he has never taken a journey of seventy miles from Masasi without coming across a caravan of slaves. One of these caravans numbered 2,000.

EUROPEAN MISSIONS.

Missionary stations of American and European societies very nearly encompass Africa from Sierra Leone to Liberia, Gaboon, Benguela, and Cape Town, and thence to Natal, Zanzibar, Mombas, Abyssinia and Egypt. The videttes of this grand, united army have reached the African lake region, the banks of the Zambezi and the Niger and the basin of the Congo. The missions of the Wesleyan Missionary Society on the west coast are reported to be in a flourishing condition, and there is a general desire to extend the work into the interior. The Gambia station has long had stations as far up the Gambia river as McCarthy's Island, 250 miles, but the lack of native preachers has been a hindrance to further advance. At Sierra Leone there is the same difficulty, but on the Gold Coast and at Lagos "we have taken hold of heathenism," writes the Rev. John Milurn, "with a mighty grip. Here we have a native ministry that any Church might be proud of—earnest, pious, patriotic, loyal Methodist preachers—willing to go where they are sent by the Church, and to make a sacrifice if need be." The last report of the Gold Coast, Yoruba and Popo districts give 59 chapels, 268 other preaching places, 24 missionaries, English and native, 287 local preachers, 6,716 church members, while there are 20,075 attendants at public worship.

The Episcopal Bishop of Sierra Leone observes, in a sketch of progress in his jurisdiction, that the Church is now almost self-supporting. There are thirteen parishes in charge of native pastors. From £2,000 to £3,000 are annually raised for evangelical purposes. There is a college for training native clergy, and a grammar school at Freetown, as well as a female educational institute. Lagos, the furthest section of the commission is 1,000 miles from Sierra Leone. When the Church Missionary Society went there, twenty-five years ago, Lagos was a principal slave market. Its district now contains seven churches, three of them in charge of native pastors.

The Baptist mission at the Cameroons has been seriously interfered with as the result of the annexation of this region by Germany. It seems that King Bell, chief of Bell Town, ceded not only his own territory, but that of another chief, Joss. The latter refused to regard the transaction as valid. A petty warfare followed between these native chiefs and their adherents, when two German men-of-war arrived

at the mouth of the river and forcibly interfered in the conflict. In the bombardment Bell Town and Hickory Town were burned, including the mission premises. Along the river for many miles there is not a single house standing. The people having been proclaimed rebels, it is not probable that they will settle there again, and this prosperous mission, founded nearly forty years ago by the famous missionary, Rev. Alfred Saker, has received a stunning, if not a fatal blow.

A valedictory service in connection with the departure of six missionaries, under the auspices of the Baptist Missionary Society for the Congo, was held August 17, in Camden Road Chapel, London. Mr. W. C. Parkinson, who presided, said that it was impossible for any one to adequately describe the possibilities and extent of the work to which they had now set their hands. It was opening out day by day. The Livingstonian mission of the Scotch Free Church, on lake Nyassa, is having continued prosperity. In one of the schools over one hundred scholars are gathered; a dozen are reading in the first reader, and a class of eight boys is reading in John's Gospel. The language is the Chinyanja. In a school taught by a native teacher thirty-eight were present. On one Sunday it was estimated that eight hundred were present at worship. The Universities mission has thirty-five native evangelists, formerly slaves. The released slaves had printed at their printing office the whole of the New Testament and a larger part of the Old, in the Swahili language, understood through the interior.

Bishop Hannington, with Messrs. Hanford and Wray, of the Church Missionary Society, with the view of opening a mission, have recently visited the country called the "Switzerland of Africa," the chief feature of which is the lofty Mount Kilimanjaro, rising some 18,000 feet above the level of the sea, and covered with perpetual snow, though only three degrees south of the equator. This region lies about two hundred and fifty miles northwest from Mombasa, and through it runs the natural road to the Victoria Nyanza. Travellers unite in describing the scene as marvelously lovely, uniting the luxuriance of the tropics with the grandeur of Switzerland. The beautiful vale of Taveta is spoken of as a "very Arcadian bower of bliss." Lying some 2,400 feet above the sea, seven miles in length by one in breadth, irrigated with cool waters from the melting snows on the mountains, richly cultivated, surrounded by gigantic forest trees, rising eighty to one hundred feet before branching into a luxurious canopy, with a profusion of ferns and flowering shrubs of every hue in the intervals, this valley is a very "forest haven of refuge." It is entered through a narrow defile, across which are thrown thick barriers of wood, forming an impenetrable defense, zealously guarded, with a

single opening for a gate. The inhabitants form a Republic, are of mixed origin, are diligent agriculturists, raising in their fertile and carefully irrigated soil banana groves, sugar cane, sweet potatoes, yams, and every variety of tropical vegetables, while also they are great bee-masters, with fat flocks of sheep and goats. They are described as honest, industrious, hospitable, manly, and courteous, though grossly superstitious. West of Taveta are the highlands of Chagga, comprising the whole habitable region along the south and southeast slope of Kilimanjaro. Not a month passes without rain, and the fertile country shows everywhere the signs of most luxuriant cultivation, as rich as that of Taveta, with the advantage of a delightful interchange of mountain, forest and plain. The principal chief in this locality is a pleasing specimen of African royalty, powerfully built, of princely bearing, with a pleasant, intellectual face, and affable and courteous in his intercourse with travellers.

On Sunday, April 5, forty additional Roman Catholic missionaries for Africa received their dismissal in the cathedral of Algiers. They were under the leadership of Mgr. Lirinac, Bishop of Pacendo, Vicar Apostolic of the Victoria Nyanza, and Mgr. Carbonier, Vicar Apostolic of lake Tanganyika. These missionaries are intended for the four Apostolic vicariates into which Equatorial Africa has lately been divided by the Roman pontiff. The party consists of lay brothers and ordained fathers. The latter have been trained in the seminary at Algiers. They belong to a special religious order, with a peculiar semi-oriental dress, of which the native red cap is a conspicuous feature.

Steamers are running in the waters of Africa on the errands of the Gospel. The Henry Wright is in use at Zanzibar and Mombas; the Illala is navigating the Nyanza; the Eleanor is engaged on the Victoria Nyanza; the Good News is raising steam on the Tanganyika, and the Henry Reed and Peace have made their first trip on the Congo, above Stanley Falls. The Charles Jansen is under construction for the Nyanza, and the Henry Venn has been completed at a cost of \$30,000 for voyaging on the Niger. She is intended to replace one of that name irreparably damaged after rendering valuable service.

There seems to be no longer doubt of the deaths of the monarchs Mtese, of Mirambo, and of Umzila. Mr. Stanley has characterized Mtese as the most remarkable man in all Central Africa, and this is saying more than at first appears, as there are and have been several who might claim great honor. Mirambo, whose realm is south of the Victoria Nyanza, would be a statesman if he had proper "environments."

AMERICAN MISSIONS.

The African mission of the Protestant Episcopal Church is nearly half a century old, and has a total of 425 communicants. Eighty-six missionaries from the United States have labored in it, of whom twenty-eight died in the field, and it has had, including the present incumbent, four Bishops. The new Bishop is a product of the mission. The mission is divided into three districts—Cape Palmas, which gives name to the diocese; Sinou and Bassa, and Monrovia and Cape Mount. Of the 425 communicants 247 are classed as Liberians, 177 as native and 1 as American. Three stations in the Cape Palmas district, two of which are purely native, contain 221 communicants, of whom more than half are Greboes. The Lutheran mission, on the St. Paul's river, Rev. David A. Day, superintendent, is making gratifying progress. Rev. D. Davidson, native, was ordained and has become pastor of the first self-sustaining church at Muhlenburg. This is an industrial mission, coffee planting having become helpful toward support. Missionaries of the Baptist Foreign Mission Convention, (colored,) have established a station at Cape Mount, Liberia, among the Veys. They find the youth quick and intelligent, and report surprising progress in conversions.

Although the restrictions imposed by the French Government at the Gaboon and on the Ogove have filled the path of the missionaries of the Presbyterian Board with hindrances, there have been scenes of hopeful labor, and visible fruits have arisen. The French authorities at the Gaboon, bent on Gallicanizing their colony, have insisted on having all schools conducted in the French language. This requisition, if it cannot be changed, may put an end to the schools. It is hoped that France will at least permit the preaching of the Gospel to the natives of French Africa in the vernacular and the maintenance of the vernacular schools.

The American Board mission at Bihe is suffering suspension for a time through the influence of Portuguese traders. It is believed that the interruption is but temporary. The result of the fifty years' labor of the Board among the Zulus is thus given: The fifteen native churches report a membership of 782, with a gain this year of 118, or 16 per cent., and their annual contributions to all purposes amount to \$3,694. The native agency consists of 52 preachers, two of them pastors; 42 teachers and 43 other help, who, with the missionary force at 59 different preaching places, are presenting the Gospel to a population of 75,000. The work of higher education is carried on in a theological school with 15 pupils, a boys' boarding school with 46 pupils, and two girls' boarding schools with 88 pupils, while 41 common schools give instruction to 1,700 pupils.

The mission located on Inhambane Bay, though one of the youngest missions of the Board, shows itself not least in enterprise or industry. Three extended journeys of exploration, besides several shorter excursions, are reported this year, and valuable results have been secured. Large populations in fertile territory, accessible to missionary labor, have been found between the Limpopo river and the coast. The three families of the mission have their several places of residence amid friendly people not far from each other, and from these three centres they are now ready to acquire the language and begin systematically the evangelical work which they hope in time to carry from the sea to the heart of the Continent.

Bishop William Taylor, who is at the head of a missionary colony of over fifty persons, preachers, physicians, mechanics and farmers, with their wives and thirteen children, presided at the Liberia Annual Conference at Monrovia in January. The Bishop writes from Nhangepepe, June 19: "I and a half dozen of our men are out here, about 300 miles from Loanda, preparing the way for the settlement of our families. We have surveyed a mission farm of over 2,000 acres of splendid land, in which we can grow anything tropical or temperate. The people receive us gladly. This is a place that we must occupy; fine country, 2,300 feet elevation and large population. This is our first inland station."

SAMUDU.

A Mandingo chief, Alimami Samudu, alias Ibrahima Sanankodu, of Beri, some 1,000 miles in the interior of Liberia, is reported to have an army of 100,000 men, subduing the country between Timbuctoo and the coast, and opening it to commerce. He is represented to be about 40 years of age. Messengers sent by him have reached Sierra Leone. Rev. Dr. Edward W. Blyden, than whom there is no better authority on West Africa, and the extent and influence of Mohammedanism in that country, gives the following interesting account of this movement:

"The Governor and inhabitants of Sierra Leone have been recently very much impressed by the physical and mental character of the hundred representatives who came to the government from the troops of Samudu, the Mandingo warrior from the Koniah country, interior of Liberia, who is driving the French before him in the neighborhood of the Niger. They could all read, and had the frame of giants, and their heads the intellect of statesmen. These people neither in themselves nor in their ancestry, have ever been affected by liquor. They are sober, strong, self-reliant. Nor have they been weakened by that other vice, which, in this nineteenth century, has caused an outcry in highly enlightened London. The young men

retain their physical integrity and purity until they take their wife or wives. Mohammedan law recognizes four lawful wives. Every woman has her husband and every girl is betrothed. The people are compelled to be pure. Polygamy in the interior of Africa, where it is an institution transmitted and regulated by the customs and laws of generations, is a different thing from polygamy in civilized communities. Among the aborigines it resembles the ancient patriarchal life, in civilized or European communities or colonies it would resemble pandemonium.

"I had the opportunity of conversing with persons belonging to the army of Samudu. They were all from the neighborhood of Medina and Musardu. They gave me the following information: The main road from the interior—from the gold regions of Boure and the cattle districts—had its chief outlets, until within the last eighty years, at Wah Koro (Cape Mount) and Durn Koro (Cape Mesurado.) But the growth of Sierra Leone and intermediate wars diverted the trade to that peninsula. The old road is much shorter and far more convenient from Medina and Musardu to Monrovia, Grand Bassa, Sinou and Cape Palmas than it is to Sierra Leone. And the object of Samudu is to re-open those roads. Already the wars which diverted the trade of Medina and Musardu from the Liberian coast to Sierra Leone and Gambia have been suppressed, and all that remains to be done is that Liberia should take advantage of these openings to enlarge her intercourse with the interior. Other things being equal, geographical convenience will determine the direction of trade.

"And the opportunity is offering itself for emigrants to push out to those healthy and wealthy regions, where cattle and horses abound. Here is also a promising field for distinctive labor. They will be sure of the hearty support and co-operation of those intelligent tribes, who understand the advantage of a neutral, industrial and religious element settling in their country, as a means of preserving peace and aiding in keeping the roads open. Liberia has already entered upon relations with those people; first, through Mr. Benjamin Anderson, the explorer of Musardu, and more recently the late President Gardner conducted negotiations with Ibrahima Sissi, King of Medina whose place is now taken by Samudu."

COLONIZATION.

The Congo is the country to which some Americans would direct the people of color to emigrate from the United States. We have always felt about the efforts of Europeans to settle the Congo State that their undertaking would not prove an exception to the rule, viz., that Europeans cannot colonize Equatorial Africa., The policy of the American Colonization Society will always remain the

true and only policy for the civilization and regeneration of the "Dark Continent." Every day's experience is proving this. Liberia is not only the most fertile, salubrious and beautiful section of West Africa, but it has convenient access to the wealthiest districts of the Niger valley. It is not difficult for a man of the least energy to make a comfortable living.

Africa, south of Liberia, may be considered inaccessible to Americans. It does not seem possible for them to get a foothold in the Cameroons, where the Germans control the trade, or in Fernando Po, subject to Spanish rule, or in the Niger country, Dahomey, the Gold Coast and Ashantee, all under English influence. Liberia furnishes the most promising field for American enterprise, both commercial and agricultural.

A recent writer on "Some of the difficulties in the way of extending trade in Africa," complains of the absence of labor for mechanical, agricultural or trading purposes. Now the Colonization Society furnishes Africa with labor for all these departments. There is no other part of the Continent where so many mechanics and practical farmers are to be found as in that Republic. Multiply the characteristics of Liberia and the civilization of Africa is secured. Bishop Gilbert Haven said: "Let Liberia fill up her land with farmers, and she will conquer Africa." Only the United States possesses the agents for making these farms, and only the Colonization Society is able to assist any of these agents to remove to Africa. The Colonization Society ought to be much encouraged, for God is showing to the world that its methods and plans for Africa's civilization and Christianization are the most practicable and effectual methods.

The movement among the descendants of Africa in this country for emigration to the fatherland is causing great interest all along the coast in and out of Liberia, and an earnest desire prevails to welcome the returning exiles. There are vast and fruitful districts in the Republic awaiting to afford them comfortable and prosperous homes.

To the regeneration of Africa we are definitely pledged by our work in Liberia, by our shares in the founding of the Congo Free State and by our leading place among the nations of the earth. A more glorious inheritance and a more arduous and inspiring enterprise it is impossible to conceive and history is not likely again to furnish.

(Editorial from THE SUN of Baltimore.)

SIXTH ANNUAL PAPER ON AFRICA.

THE NEW WORLD OF AFRICA.—The first part of the sixth annual paper on Africa by Mr. Wm. Coppinger, secretary of the American Colonization Society, published in to-day's SUN, sketches in an entertaining and instructive manner the progress of the movement of annexation and colonization by which hitherto neglected regions of the Dark Continent are being brought into permanent political, commercial and industrial relations with the civilized world. Great trading companies are seizing the points of advantage on every unoccupied coast, and, ascending every navigable stream, are planting their factories far inland with the object of reaching and developing the resources of a mighty territory. A valuable feature of Mr Coppinger's present paper is the comparatively full statement it presents of the limits of the regions "annexed" or taken under "protection" by the various powers of Europe, and the agreements with respect to African territory entered into by these powers during the past year, including a summary of the results achieved by the deliberations of the Berlin Conference. The extent of recent British acquisitions in the basin of the Niger, on the east coast and in the interior north of Cape Colony will attract attention, but especially noteworthy are the large additions made to the possessions of the German empire in the country adjacent to and west of Zanzibar. England and Germany, it will be observed, have parceled out between them about all that was left of Southern Africa, while in the central and northern parts, France, Spain, Portugal and Italy have each found unconsidered bits of territory worth appropriating. The International Association has had a vast empire conceded to it in the heart of the Continent, with a strip of territory extending along the Congo to the Atlantic coast. It is no doubt gratifying that the nations of Europe should be interested in the development of Africa. Its people lack the power of initiative. Caucasian intelligence and capital may give a much-needed impulse to them. It is to be feared, however, that the interest at present felt in them by European governments has profit rather than progress for its chief inspiration. *November 28, 1885.*

THE DARK CONTINENT.—The second part of the sixth paper on Africa, by Mr William Coppinger, secretary of the American Colonization Society, which appears in another column of to-day's SUN, deals for the most part with the results of missionary and commercial enterprise during the past year, though some space is given also to political and geographical questions brought into prominence by

recent events. Few Americans are aware of the hold Christianity has acquired in various parts of Africa. Missionary stations are doing active work in Sierra Leone, Gaboon, Benguela, Natal, Zanzibar, Mombas and Abyssinia. Leaving the coast, the videttes of the advancing army of Christian teachers have penetrated to the African lake region, and to those parts of the interior accessible by way of the Gambia, the Niger, the Ogove, the Congo and the Zambezi. Steamers constructed in the interest of the furtherance of Christianity are to-day navigating the lakes Nyassa, Victoria Nyanza and Tanganyika, not to mention others in use on the Niger, on the Congo above Stanley Falls, and at Zanzibar and Mombas. The results are not incommensurate with the exertions put forth. In the Gold Coast, Yoruba and Popo districts, for example, there are 287 local preachers, 6 716 church members and 20,075 persons habitually attending public worship. In Sierra Leone the church is almost self-supporting. The Cape Palmas diocese numbers 425 communicants and among the Zulus there are 782 church members, while the number accustomed to attend services reaches 75,000. The delightful region about Mt. Kilimanjaro, about 250 miles northwest of Mombas, which has already, by reason of its magnificent scenery, elevation and healthfulness, been designated "the Switzerland of Africa," will soon be occupied by a devoted band sent out by the Church Missionary Society. The trade of West Africa becomes yearly of increased volume despite the prevailing depression. Unhappily rum and gin are the commodities most in favor with the African. The superintendent of Lutheran missions in West Africa went out to the scene of his labors on a vessel which had in its hold 100,000 gallons of New England rum, and shiploads of like poisonous stuff are pouring into the country. South Africa fares no better, brandy "destroying the good the Gospel has done to the Basutos." The British, however, exported to West Africa as much as \$2,800,000 worth of cotton goods and \$1,500,000 of other goods. For the past ten years the average of British exports to the west coast has exceeded \$10,000,000. With a view to better communication, a new cable, to touch at points in Portuguese and British territory, is being laid along the coast. Mr. Coppinger suggests that in view of the interest of the United States in Liberia, and in the development of commerce with the regions beyond, Congress should appropriate \$25,000 to explore West Africa from Monrovia to the Niger. The trade of the upper Niger would prefer to reach the coast by way of Liberia rather than by the longer route through Sierra Leone, if artificial obstructions created by petty wars were wholly removed. As tending to open this shorter trade route, the reported conquests of Samudu, a Mandingo chief of Beri,

a thousand miles in the interior, are of interest. With an army of 100,000 men he is said to be subduing the country between Timbuctoo and the coast with the intention of pacifying those regions in the interests of unrestricted trade with the African coast. It is in the power of our government to secure advantages for American trade with West Africa should Congress see fit to take the necessary steps.

December 1, 1885.

Africa - West
Liberia

CONDITIONS IN LIBERIA.

MESSAGE

FROM THE

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,

TRANSMITTING

A LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE RELATIVE TO
THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION TO INQUIRE AS TO
CONDITIONS IN LIBERIA.

JANUARY 19, 1909.—Read; referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered
to be printed.

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

The inclosed letter from the Secretary of State with the accompanying documents in reference to Liberia explain themselves. I very earnestly hope that the recommendation of the Secretary of State will be approved and that Congress will grant the appropriation of \$20,000 to pay the expenses of a commission who shall go to Liberia to examine into the situation, confer with the officers of the Liberian Government, and with the representatives of other governments actually present in Monrovia, and report recommendations as to the specific action on the part of the Government of the United States most apt to render effective relief to the Republic of Liberia under the present critical circumstances. The relations of the United States to Liberia are such as to make it an imperative duty for us to do all in our power to help the little Republic which is struggling against such adverse conditions. I very earnestly hope that the action proposed will be taken.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *January 19, 1909.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, January 18, 1909.

The PRESIDENT:

In the month of June last the Republic of Liberia, through a commission specially accredited to this Government, applied to the United States for assistance in maintaining its independence and to enable it to carry on a peaceful and orderly government. The particular form of assistance which the Commissioners contemplated

Conditions
Liberia

in their application was chiefly a guaranty by the United States of the territorial and political integrity of Liberia, with such reservations and upon such conditions as might be agreed upon.

Upon being convinced that such a guaranty was impracticable, the commissioners further requested that the United States should lend to Liberia officers to aid in the conduct of its administration and should confer with the governments of other countries having interests upon the west coast of Africa, and particularly with Great Britain, which has rendered material assistance to Liberia in the past, with a view to ascertain how best to render assistance and with a view to give to Liberia the moral support which would result from evidence of interest in her welfare on the part of the United States.

To these requests attentive consideration has been given. There have been full conferences with the commissioners and with Mr. Bocker T. Washington, who was much interested in their mission, and with representatives of other interested powers, and reports from general and from special representatives of the United States in Liberia, and the conclusion reached by the State Department is quite clear that Liberia is very much in need of assistance, that the United States can help her substantially, and that it is our duty to help her.

The condition of Liberia is really serious. Between forty and fifty thousand civilized negroes, for the most part descendants of the original colonists from the United States, occupy a territory comprising 43,000 square miles, in which there are also over a million and a half members of uncivilized native tribes. The civilized part of the population have been to a great degree cut off from any intimate relation with the rest of the civilized world for two-thirds of a century. They began with but little education, with no acquired skill in the art of government, and they have had but little opportunity to improve through intercourse with other and more advanced communities. They find it especially difficult to control the native tribes or to conduct their own government in accordance with modern requirements.

The British colony of Sierra Leone to the north and the French possessions closing in their hinterland to the east are almost continuously complaining of the failure of Liberia to maintain order upon the border. Notwithstanding the very kindly disposition on the part of Great Britain and the similar disposition on the part of France, there is imminent danger that the Republic, unless it receives outside assistance, will not be able to maintain itself very long.

Liberia is an American colony. It was established through the combined efforts of our Government and philanthropic and missionary enterprises in the United States, organized in the American Colonization Society and in societies in Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Mississippi, Louisiana, and other States. The Government participation in the establishment was the result of a series of statutes extending from 1794 to 1819 for the abolition of slavery. The last of these statutes, the act of March 3, 1819, provided that negroes from captured slavers should be safely kept, supported, and removed "beyond the limits of the United States."

For the execution of this statute President Monroe in 1819 appointed two agents of the United States Government who proceeded to cooperate with the various colonization societies, and according to a report of Amos Kendall, Fourth Auditor to the Secretary of the

Navy in 1830, the resources of the Government were employed "to colonize recaptured Africans, to build homes for them, to furnish them with farming utensils, to pay instructors to teach them, to purchase ships for their convenience, to build forts for their protection, to supply them with arms and munitions of war, to enlist troops to guard them, and to employ the army and navy in their defence."

The first members of the colony were transported from America and landed upon African soil in vessels chartered by the Government of the United States.

On the 24th of March, 1843, Mr. Webster, then Secretary of State, writing of Liberia to Mr. Everett, then American Minister in London, said:

Founded principally with a view to the melioration of the condition of an interesting portion of the great human family, this colony has conciliated more and more the good will, and has from time to time received the aid and support of this Government. Without having passed any laws for their regulation, the American Government takes a deep interest in the welfare of the people of Liberia, and is disposed to extend to them a just degree of countenance and protection.

On the 25th of September, 1843, Mr. Upshur, then Secretary of State, in a letter concerning Liberia, to the British minister in Washington, said:

To the United States it is an object of peculiar interest. It was established by our people, and has gone on under the countenance and good offices of our Government. It is identified with the success of a great object, which has enlisted the feelings and called into action the enlarged benevolence of a large proportion of our people. It is natural, therefore, that we should regard it with greater sympathy and solicitude than would attach to it under other circumstances.

From time to time since 1843 there have been expressions of interest in Liberia on the part of the United States Government, including the recognition of the independence of the Republic and a treaty of commerce and navigation in 1862, and also including a correspondence with the British Government in an ineffective effort to be of assistance to the people of Liberia in 1897. The present situation is to some extent indicated by a recent correspondence through the American ambassador in London, a copy of which is annexed.

It is unnecessary to argue that the duty of the United States toward the unfortunate victims of the slave trade was not completely performed by landing them upon the coast of Africa, and that our nation rests under the highest obligation to assist them, so far as they need assistance, toward the maintenance of free, orderly, and prosperous civil society.

The interest of the people of the United States in the welfare and progress of the millions of American citizens of the black race in the United States also furnishes a strong reason for helping to maintain this colony, whose success in self-government will give hope and courage, and whose failure would bring discouragement to the entire race.

With all the study which it has been possible to give and with all the assistance which the Liberian commissioners themselves could give, it has been found very difficult to determine the precise things which the Government of the United States had better do by way of giving assistance, and upon the most careful consideration I am satisfied that we ought to send to Liberia a commission of three experienced and judicious Americans to examine the situation there and confer with the officers of the Liberian Government and with the rep-

representatives of other governments actually present in Monrovia, with a view to reporting recommendations as to the specific action on the part of the Government of the United States which will constitute the most effective measures of relief.

I accordingly advise that Congress be asked for an appropriation of say \$20,000 to pay the expenses of such a commission, and that in case of favorable action by Congress a suitable vessel of the United States Navy be designated to transport the commission to and from Liberia.

Faithfully, yours,

ELIHU ROOT.

No. 714]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, June 13, 1908.

SIR: I inclose herewith a copy of a communication, dated June 11, 1908, from the Liberian Mission to the United States, by which the Government of the United States is requested to invite the Government of Great Britain to join with it in an arrangement looking to the perpetuity of Liberia.

With the envoys' note are inclosed copies of signed pro-memoriæ which passed between the British Embassy at Washington and the Department in March, 1897. While copies of these are already in your embassy, further copies are herewith inclosed for your convenience.

Referring to these and to the communication addressed to the President of Liberia by the British consul at Monrovia on January 14, 1908 (a copy of which you will find with the department's instruction to you No. 630 of March 10, 1908), the department desires you to say to Sir Edward Grey that the Government of the United States having special interest in the welfare of Liberia, arising from the circumstances under which the settlement of that country was made, is very desirous to be of assistance to the Liberians, and that, having especially in view the British Government's communication of March 8, 1897, the Government of the United States would be glad to have the views of the British Government as to how the United States could cooperate with that Government toward promoting the welfare of Liberia.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

ELIHU ROOT.

The Honorable WHITELAW REID,
American Ambassador, London.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, June 18, 1908.

SIR: I inclose for your information and the files of the legation copy of a correspondence relative to the request made by the Liberian envoys in this country that the United States invite the Government of Great Britain to cooperate with it with a view to assuring the perpetuity of Liberia.

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

ELIHU ROOT

ERNEST LYON, Esq.,
American Minister, Monrovia.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
Washington, June 13, 1908.

GENTLEMEN: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 11th instant, in which you inclose copies of the pro-memoriæ exchanged between the British ambassador at Washington and the Secretary of State of the United States, and dated respectively March 8 and 13, 1897, concerning the special interest taken by the Governments of Great Britain and the United States in the independence of Liberia.

In connection with these documents you request that this Government "take the initiative toward inviting Great Britain to join with the United States in an arrangement that will give some definite shape to the deep interest she so generously expressed in the perpetuity of Liberia."

In reply I have the honor to state that the ambassador of the United States at London will be instructed to open with the Government of Great Britain the subject of contributing to the welfare of Liberia, making the communication of March 8, 1897, from the British ambassador at Washington, the basis of negotiation.

I have the honor to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ELIHU ROOT.

Messrs. G. W. GIBSON, JAMES J. DOSSEN, CHARLES P. DUNBAR,

Envoys Extraordinary of Liberia to the United States.

Copy from files State Department, Liberia.

PROMEMORIA.

WASHINGTON, March 8, 1897.

The undersigned is instructed by his Government with reference to repeated encroachments on the territory of the Liberian Republic to submit to the United States Government the following suggestions:

It might prove of service to the Liberian Republic and encourage it to resist absorption by a foreign power were the Governments of Great Britain and of the United States to make a joint declaration of the special interest taken by them in the independence of that Republic.

JULIAN PAUNCEFOTE,

H. B. M. Ambassador.

PROMEMORIA.

MARCH 13, 1897.

Having reference to the confidential promemoria submitted by his excellency the British ambassador, on the 8th of March last, and being desirous, in view of the circumstance of that Republic being an offshoot of the community of the United States, and to show toward it a kind spirit and all proper sympathy, the United States for its part declares the special interest taken by it in the independence of the Republic of Liberia and the concern it must feel should any prospect of its absorption by a foreign power develop in the future.

The Government of the United States is gratified to perceive from the British promemoria of March 8 last that Her Majesty's Government entertains a similar special interest in the independence of the Liberian Republic.

JOHN SHERMAN.

LEGATION OF UNITED STATES,
Monrovia, Liberia, July 13, 1897.

MR. SECRETARY: It is my privilege to present these promemorias exchanged between the United States and Great Britain at Washington.

The one from the United States, which I have the honor to represent at this court, gives me profound pleasure to present to the home of my ancestors.

The one coming from Great Britain increases my admiration of Her Majesty's Government as a favor of justice and equity.

By these promemorias you are assured that any unfriendly encroachment upon your territory in future will be regarded by these powers as an act against their earnest protest.

The United States desires Liberia to remain an independent and distinct nation, and to resist all encroachment toward absorption, guaranteeing her sympathy to this end, assuring her that the friendship which has so long existed between the United States and Liberia remains unshaken and grows more intimate daily.

In expressing these good feelings, I am authorized to convey personally the warm affections of the new President of the United States of America for Liberia and her future prosperity.

I ever remain, faithfully and sincerely,

WILLIAM H. HEARD,
Min. Res. Con. Gen.

Hon. G. W. GIBSON,
Secretary of State.

THE ARLINGTON,
Washington, June 11, 1908.

SIR: Referring to our interview with you to-day, we have the honor to transmit herewith copies of documents from the files of the State Department, Monrovia, under dates March 8 and 13 and 13th July, 1897, being copies of the promemorias from your Government and Great Britain and of the dispatch from your minister to Liberia relating thereto.

We beg leave to repeat our request that your Government would take the initiative toward inviting Great Britain to join with the United States in an arrangement that will give some definite shape to the deep interest she so generously expressed in the perpetuity of Liberia and which received the sincere approval of your Government.

We beg again to thank you for the very kind assurances expressed in this relation.

With our high consideration, we have the honor to be, sir,

Your obedient servants,

G. W. GIBSON.
 JAMES J. DOSSEN.
 CHAS. B. DUNBAR.

The Honorable ELIHU ROOT,
Secretary of State, Washington.

No. 668.]

AMERICAN EMBASSY, *London, July 25, 1908.*

SIR: With reference to the department's instruction No. 714 of the 13th ultimo requesting the views of the British Government as to the best manner in which they could at the present time cooperate with us in order to promote the welfare of Liberia, I have the honor to inclose herewith a copy of a note which I have received from Sir Edward Grey on the subject, dated the 23d instant, in reply to my note to him of the 29th ultimo, a copy of which is also inclosed. Sir Edward Grey's note suggests there would be no objection to the appointment of a judicial officer of United States to act as adviser if so desired.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,

WHITELAW REID.

The honorable ELIHU ROOT,
Secretary of State.

AMERICAN EMBASSY, *London, June 29, 1908.*

SIR: In view of a request preferred by the three commissioners of Liberia now in Washington on a diplomatic mission, as well as in view of the old agreement between His Majesty's Government and that of the United States about their special interest in the independence of the Liberian Republic, I am instructed to say that the Government of the United States still maintains a special interest in the welfare of Liberia, arising from the circumstances under which the settlement of the country was made, and is very desirous now to be of assistance to the Liberians.

Recalling the agreement referred to (made on the initiative of His Majesty's Government March 8, 1897; concurred in by us March 13, 1897), we should be glad to have your views as to how the two Governments could best cooperate at the present time toward promoting the welfare of Liberia.

I have, etc.,

WHITELAW REID.

The Right Hon. Sir EDWARD GREY, Bt.

FOREIGN OFFICE, *July 23, 1908.*

YOUR EXCELLENCY: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your excellency's note of June 29, last, in which, after calling attention to the special interest felt by your excellency's Government in maintaining the independence of the Liberian Republic as borne out by the notes exchanged between the British and United States Governments in March, 1897, you request the views of His Majesty's Government as to the best manner in which the Government of the United States could at the present time cooperate with His Majesty's Government in order to promote the welfare of Liberia.

As your excellency is aware, the interest felt by the Government of the United States is fully shared by His Majesty's Government, who, at the request of the Liberian authorities themselves, have lent to them the services of certain officials to assist in reorganizing their customs

and their frontier police force. Mr. W. J. Lamont, who has been intrusted with the reorganization of the customs, has already been able to increase considerably the revenue derived from this branch of the administration and has succeeded, it is hoped, by his methods in introducing a more healthy tone into the customs department. He has also recently been appointed by the Liberian Government to be their financial adviser, and there is reason to hope that his advice may lead to an improvement in the administration of that department.

As I had the honor to explain in March last to the United States chargé d'affaires, His Majesty's Government have, in any measure they may be called upon to take in Liberia, no designs whatever upon the independence or integrity of the country, and they do not intend to undertake any responsibility with regard to it. The services of British officials have been lent to the Liberians solely with a view to the better preservation of order, more particularly in that part of Liberia which marches with Sierra Leone and improved administration.

The French Government also, as your excellency is doubtless aware, takes a special interest in the affairs of the Republic, and His Majesty's Government have already assured them that they would have no objection to the services of some French officials being lent for the same objects as the British officials. It is doubtful, therefore, whether there is at the present time any scope for the cooperation of the United States Government in the customs or police, and if they desire to render active assistance to the Liberian Government they will, perhaps, prefer to direct their attention to other branches of the administration, which are as urgently in need of reform.

That reforms are required in one other branch at least His Majesty's Government have reason to know, for among the chief difficulties which His Majesty's Government experience in regard to Liberia are the frequent complaints received from British subjects as to the treatment they receive in the Liberian courts. If, therefore, the United States Government could see their way to introducing reforms into the judiciary, either by lending the services of an official to act as judicial adviser or in some other manner, much good would, in the opinion of His Majesty's Government, be derived not only by the various subjects of foreign nationalities resident in the country, but also by the Liberians themselves.

While calling attention more especially to this one branch of the administration which has been a frequent source of trouble, I need hardly add that His Majesty's Government would welcome the cooperation of the Government of the United States with them in Liberia in any other manner which may appear more suitable or more desirable on a consideration of all the circumstances.

It appears to His Majesty's Government that the main risk to the future of Liberia arises from the inefficiency of Liberian administration of their own affairs, especially in matters of finance, and any suggestion which the United States might see fit to give them to follow the advice of such foreigners as they have themselves engaged to help in their administration would have a beneficial effect.

I have, etc.,

E. GREY.

His Excellency the Hon. WHITELAW REID.